

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Exchange Bank Building

and/or common Rietz Building

2. Location

street & number 344 Third Street ___ not for publication

city, town Farmington ___ vicinity of congressional district ^{2nd}~~First~~

state Minnesota code 22 county Dakota code 037

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name James K. Rietz

street & number Law Building

city, town Owatonna ___ vicinity of state Minnesota 55060

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dakota County Government Center

street & number 1560 West Highway 55

city, town Hastings state Minnesota 55033

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

date 1979 ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Exchange Bank Building is a two-story rectangular structure of red brick on a stone foundation. It is in the Italianate style with a bracketed primary cornice and a secondary cornice above the street-level facade. Bays are separated by pilasters. The first floor has a double storefront with large windows. Another storefront on the south side of the building has been altered. The entry for the second floor has a semi-circular arch with a fanlight.

The storefronts have been altered with a metal awning, metal siding between the awning and secondary cornice, and a colorful paint job. All of these are fundamentally reversible. A small balcony on the second floor facade has been removed.

The second floor has two-over-two windows with semi-circular arches of buff-colored brick. The keystone of each arch is of cast stone with a floral design. Similar stones are visible on the ground floor beneath the paint. The cornice and pediment appear to be of pressed metal. One of several original brick chimneys is intact.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1880

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Exchange Bank Building is significant as a notable example of the second-generation masonry commercial structures commonly constructed on the main streets of Dakota County towns during the last third of the 19th century. Built in 1880 on the busy corner of Third and Oak Streets in Farmington, the brick building replaced first-generation wooden stores destroyed in a disastrous fire in 1879. For many years the Exchange Bank occupied the south side of the first floor, with a hardware store on the north side; the Post Office in the rear of the first floor; and an opera hall on the second floor. The bank and post office have moved to newer quarters and the opera hall is defunct, yet the structure continues to function as an essential part of the business district with new tenants. The building's corner location ensures maximum visibility for the elaborate metal cornice and floral motif of the cast-stone trim. In spite of largely reversible alterations to the double storefront, the Exchange Bank Building remains one of the best-preserved second-generation commercial structures in Dakota County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Farmington

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A 1,5 4,8,8 4,8,0 4,9 4,2 6,9,0
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

S 70 ft. of E 100 ft., Lots 4 and 5, ex. N 1 ft. of E 80 ft.
 Block 22, Original Town of Farmington

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Pommering Reynolds, Survey Analyst

organization Minnesota Historical Society date 8 June 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House contact Dennis Gimmetad
 telephone 612-296-9545

city or town St. Paul state Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/1/79

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Carol O'Sullivan date 12-31-79
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristen O'Connell date 12/26/79

Chief of Registration